

(ii) *Details of the Projects prioritized for Central Assistance during 2000-2001 for Puri, Konark and Bhubaneswar in Orissa.*

S.No	Name of the Project Prioritized	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Integrated Development of Tourist Centre, Puri	60.00
2.	Development of Buddha Jayanti Park, Bhubaneswar	40.00
3.	Development of Puri Temple Complex including Anada Bazar and Heritage at Athamala	60.00
4.	Development of Padnakeshpur Patia, Bhubaneswar	24.00
5.	Development of Craft Village at Khandgiri, Bhubaneswar	40.00

Financial assistance to private travel bureaus

2683. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered extending financial support to private travel bureaus in developing the tourism industry;

(b) if so, the details of the support extended and names of the organisations who have received the assistance; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. However, Central Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance to State Government on the merit of proposals, availability of funds and *inter-se* priority. However, no such assistance is being extended to private travel bureaus.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No approved scheme exists to extend such assistance to private bureaus.